

**SECRET****EXCLUDED** 5-10

CIA No. 5463

28 June 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: 

Chief, DIAAP-4

1. We have reviewed your latest draft on the definitions problem and have a number of suggestions for changes. Our principal problem concerns your approach to the differentiation between national estimates and formal Order of Battle as MACV conceives it.

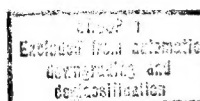
2. It is our understanding that General Wheeler intended that before the proposals on definitions and other aspects of the strengths problem be sent to MACV that they be fully agreed between CIA and DIA. We could not agree to the draft in its present form.

3. We believe that one mention of a possible difference between national estimates and Order of Battle for field purposes should be made at the beginning of the message. Any further mention of it in the comments should be designed to nudge MACV toward reality. As it stands, your draft is a clear invitation to ignore the definitions we propose.

4. For your consideration, we propose the following changes in the draft.

A. As a substitute for the last sentence of paragraph 1: It is recognized, however, that requirements for order of battle information for field use may sometimes differ from the kinds of estimates needed for national intelligence. I believe these definitions will provide a basic framework both for order of battle maintenance and national intelligence estimating.

B. Maneuver Units: MACV should be asked to provide an estimate of the small units not carried on the OB. I suggest the last sentence of your comment be dropped and the following substituted: There is no absolute requirement for a detailed listing by unit designator in the OB, although a general category with a single strength figure, either nationally or by corps area, should be included.

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C. Administrative Services: The present MACV estimate for Administrative Services includes the personnel in contiguous border areas. Therefore, their inclusion by us (CIA/DIA) could not be the basis of the difference between an OB and an estimate. Further, we should not discuss criteria in this message. We are proposing new definitions primarily for clarity. How these definitions are used by people in the numbers game undoubtedly will be a matter for subsequent communication. Your comment here regarding criteria makes the MACV criteria seem rather hallowed. Yet, in the case of Administrative Services, MACV does not apply criteria, but makes estimates. As you recall, there is ample reason for us to send a proposed revision of the MACV criteria at a later date. We believe the definition and comment we proposed in our draft of 13 June 1968 is clear and may be acceptable to MACV.

D. Guerrillas: We would propose dropping the last sentence in your comment since the information, indeed, is available. It seems to us to be perfectly reasonable to ask MACV to consider the possibility of treating the two groups as separate elements.

E. Your approach to the infrastructure and insurgency base problems is fine.

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